

Environmental Report
March 2021
Environmental Manager Teresa Sidwell



March is Kidney Cancer Awareness Month - The Environmental Division wore our orange and black t-shirts with pride that our Senior Officer Filbeck is a survivor and is going strong (pictured above).

Large Tire Dump - We received a report from someone who had visited this property that is currently on the market. Officer Filbeck used the Environmental drone to fly over the 5 acre property in the Siloam Springs area and was able to locate the dump site (pictured below right) but it was difficult to tell how deep the tire pile was. Michael Waddle, Director of Emergency Management let us borrow his 4-wheeler to visit the largest tire dump site I have ever seen. The ravine was very sloped but we were able to make it down (pictured below left) and estimate that there are one to two thousand tires.



Staff Training – Officer Filbeck and I spent time at the gun range in March. In addition, Officer Filbeck received 45 hours of training for Supervising Field Training Officer Unit, Communications for Law Enforcement, and Racial Profiling.

Roadside Litter – Have you noticed all the litter lately? The Sheriff's Office Inmate Crews have been very busy in March assisting us with litter cleanup. They picked up Woods Lodge Road in the Avoca area, Hwy 12 and Old Prairie Creek Road in the Prairie Creek area, Old Wire Road in the Lowell area, Lawlis Road in the Siloam Springs area, Punkin Hollow in the

Bentonville area, Gramling Road on the north side of Rogers, and Hwy 94 in the Pea Ridge area. We also got help from three Adopt-a-Road groups, who helped clean up the Monte Ne beach area (pictured below left) as well as Punkin Hollow and Miller Church Roads outside Bentonville. We love our volunteers and the Sheriff's inmate crews! We really couldn't keep Benton County clean without them!



EARTH DAY APRIL 22

The Benton County Solid Waste District and the Environmental Division will be hosting the first annual "Great Benton County Disappearing Litter Challenge" starting on Earth Day April 22! There will be free supplies and contests for participants. Keep watching for more information to come.



Officer Sidwell picked up the litter on Frisco Springs Road (above) and Officer Filbeck cleaned up the Snavelly Bridge area.

Convenience Center Program – This program is a collaborative effort between Benton County, the Cities and the Benton County Solid Waste District to provide recycling and safe disposal of large bulky household items including furniture, electronics, tires, scrap metal, appliances, and a variety of household hazardous waste including chemicals, batteries and fluorescent bulbs. Limited amounts of items are taken free of charge or for a low cost from local household residents.

2021 Convenience Center Bulky Waste Disposal

	HAULS	TONS	COST	HAULS	TONS	COST	HAULS	TONS	COST	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
	CENTERTON	CENTERTON	CENTERTON	ROGERS	ROGERS	ROGERS	SILAM	SILAM	SILAM	HAULS	TONS	COST
JAN	9	17.38	\$2,225.68	5	15.05	\$1,473.00	0	-	\$104.32	14		\$3,803.00
FEB	10	24.67	\$2,753.10	9	21.08	\$2,444.62	0	-	\$106.94	19		\$5,304.66
MAR	19	36.43	\$4,737.49	18	43.54	\$4,843.54	1		\$474.52	38		\$10,055.55
YTD	38	78.48	\$9,716.27	32	79.67	\$8,761.16	1	-	\$685.78	71		\$19,163.21

2021 Expenses for Waste Disposal

2021 County Expenses	Bulky Waste Centerton	Bulky Waste Rogers	Bulky Waste Siloam Springs	Attendant's Wages**	Household Hazardous Waste	Advertising	In-house recycling	Roadside Cleanups	Nuisance Cases	Conv. Centers Operations Costs	TOTALS
BUDGET	\$62,000.00	\$43,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$53,200.00	\$30,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,400.00	\$33,150.00		\$ 242,750.00
ACTUAL COSTS											
JANUARY	\$ 2,225.68	\$ 1,473.00	\$ 104.32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ 3,803.00
FEBRUARY	\$ 2,753.10	\$ 2,444.62	\$ 106.94	\$ -	-	-	-	\$ 5.58	\$ 112.50	-	\$ 5,422.74
MARCH	\$ 4,737.49	\$ 4,843.54	\$ 474.52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38.69	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 10,627.52	\$ 25,421.76
SPENT Y-T-D	\$ 9,716.27	\$ 8,761.16	\$ 685.78	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44.27	\$ 4,812.50	\$ 10,627.52	\$ 34,647.50

Roadside Cleanups in March – We saw more roadside dumps in Benton County this month than any previous month during my almost 13 years with this division. We went to 19 sites across our county outside the areas of Avoca, Lowell, Bentonville, Siloam Springs, Pea Ridge, Monte Ne, Decatur, Rogers, Gentry and Garfield. Over a three day period we collected 4 couches, 3 chairs, 12 mattresses, a hot water heater, cabinets, 35 bags of litter and waste, clothing, metal bed frame, 9 tires, 3 rolls of chain-link fencing, 4 televisions, a large piece of iron, a fishing pole, 2 child's ride on toys, boxes, 2 pallets, buckets, bed headboard, baby equipment, a freezer, a blow up jump house, and a vacuum.



Environmental Division Programs – Our division proudly provide the following programs to our community.

1. The Adopt a Road litter cleanup program
2. The Environmental Education program for children and adults
3. The Benton County Green Team
4. The Rain Garden stormwater outdoor classroom
5. Waste Not - Want Not recycling program for county employees

Environmental Enforcement - In March we received 48 new reports of illegal dumping. Our primary function is to protect the environment through prevention and enforcement. We investigate environmental violations generated by citizen reports on properties located outside city limits and reserve citations as a last resort. We also provide education, cleanup of illegal dump sites along county roads, installation of signs, installation of surveillance cameras and extra patrols in areas of frequent dumping.

Case in the Garfield Area – This case was opened in March of 2020 when a neighbor reported that trash was blowing into their yard from the neighbor's yard. The tenant of this mobile home said that they were having financial difficulties and our Environmental Officer gave them several months to remove the waste. Eventually, the tenant was issued a citation and soon after moved away. Unfortunately, the property owner was stuck with the cost of removing the waste. The property reinspection for the court found that the property is completely cleaned and free of environmental violations.

Before



After



Nuisance Case – This property (pictured below) on Mulberry Lane in the Monte Ne area is next on our list for remediation. Recently someone dumped a couple hundred tires at the site of this deteriorated mobile home. We will be asking for help from an inmate crew with removal of the tires. We will hire a contractor to removed the mobile home waste.



ENVIRONMENTAL CASE DATA Refer to the charts for environmental cases received and actions initiated in March.

VIOLATION TYPE	QTY
Burn (appliances)	0
Burn (auto bodies & parts)	0
Burn (construction debris)	1
Burn (electronics)	0
Burn (furniture)	1
Burn (general waste)	0
Burn (household garbage)	2
Burn (mobile home)	0
Burn (tires)	0
Bury (auto bodies & parts)	0
Bury (construction debris)	0
Bury (electronics)	0
Bury (furniture)	0
Bury (general waste)	0
Bury (household garbage)	0
Bury (mobile home)	0
Bury (trees)	0
Dumped by others (appliances)	2
Dumped by others (auto bodies & parts)	2
Dumped by others (construction debris)	2
Dumped by others (electronics)	3
Dumped by others (furniture)	14
Dumped by others (general waste)	6
Dumped by others (household garbage)	3
Dumped by others (metal)	1
Dumped by others (mobile home)	0
Dumped by others (tires)	8
Dumped by others (trees)	0
Dumped by self (appliances)	2
Dumped by self (auto bodies & parts)	1
Dumped by self (construction debris)	1
Dumped by self (electronics)	2
Dumped by self (furniture)	3
Dumped by self (general waste)	2
Dumped by self (household garbage)	4
Dumped by self (metal)	0
Dumped by self (mobile home)	0
Dumped by self (tires)	2
Dumped by self (trees)	0
OTHER	QTY
Agency Assist	0
Camera	0
Extra Patrol	1
Littering	5
Sign installation	0
Stagnant Water	0

ACTIONS TAKEN THIS MONTH	QTY.
NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS ISSUED	1
WARNINGS ISSUED	0
CITATIONS ISSUED	1
WARRANTS ISSUED	0
COURT APPEARANCES	0
CASE STATUS	QTY.
CASES OPENED THIS MONTH	48
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION	41
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES CURRENTLY IN COURT SYSTEM	20
TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES OPENED YTD	118

What does the Environmental Division do?

Environmental Officers are limited to enforcement of solid waste violations in unincorporated Benton County and do not regulate inside any city limits.

We DO NOT investigate septic issues, structure fires, agricultural waste, dead animals such as pets or wild animals, or the illegal disposal of hazardous material.

Our Division responds to violations of solid waste regulations that may include;

1. Construction or operation of a solid waste disposal facility or disposal site.
2. Dumping of solid waste upon property owned by another person.
3. Dumping of solid waste on the side of public roads or public property.
4. Solid waste on one's own property that can potentially create a public nuisance or health hazard.
5. Dumping of solid waste into a waterway.
6. Burning of solid waste.
7. Burying of solid waste.

